

Planning & Economic Development Department 100 Hughes Road Madison, Alabama 35758

## **Planning Commission Staff Report**

**Date:** August 25, 2016

**Project** 

Name: Shelton Hill Subdivision

Subject: Variance to Section 4-4 of Subdivision Regulations to not require a Layout;

and Preliminary Plat and Construction Plan Approval

**Applicant:** JWE Properties, LLC., 8624 Memorial Parkway SW, Huntsville, Alabama 35802

**Property** 

**Owner:** Miller Properties, Inc. 8006-20 Old Madison Pike, Madison, Alabama 35758

**Location:** East of Shelton Road and North of Old Madison Pike

## **Request Summary**

The requested preliminary plat is to subdivide 15.66 acres into eight residential lots and two tracts. The variance would eliminate the requirement to submit a layout plan.



#### Recommendation

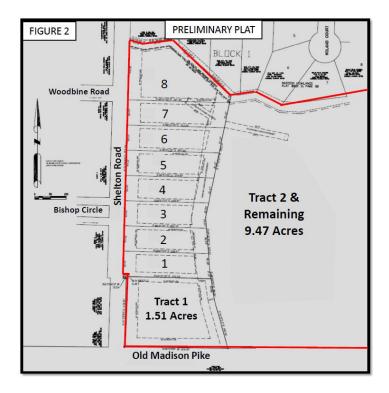
#### Motion to:

- A. "Approve the preliminary plat and construction plan for Shelton Hill Subdivision with contingencies," and
- B. "Approve the Variance to Section 4-4 of the Subdivision Regulations."

## **Project Request**

The applicant requests approval of a preliminary plat to subdivide 15.66 acres into eight residential lots and two tracts. The residential lots have an average square footage of 25,497 square feet per lot. The smallest lot will have an area of 20,766 square feet. The only notable infrastructure to be constructed will be the installation of sanitary sewer along the rear of each lot and a five foot sidewalk along Shelton Road.

Staff recommended the applicant request a variance to Section 4-4 of the Subdivision Regulations to not require a layout approval for this project. An expansion of the subdivision beyond the eight residential lots and likely future commercial tract is not anticipated. Therefore, the layout of lots that would be depicted on the sketch plat would be identical to those shown on the preliminary plat and would not serve any purpose. The other important element of the layout is the requirement of a site assessment. The Engineering Department will not require the site assessment as long as geotechnical reports are submitted and approved that substantiate no unconsolidated fill be found on the lots that could affect the installation of the sanitary sewer and building foundations.



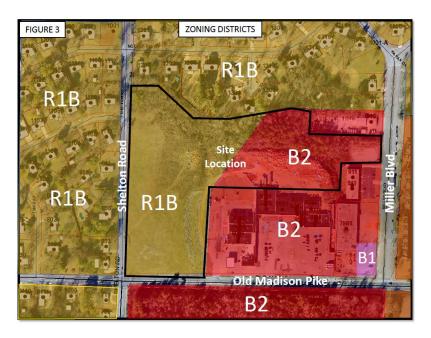
## **General Information**

#### **Background:**

The Planning Commission approved a request to rezone the 4.68 acres where the eight lots will be located from R1B to R2 at the June 21st Planning Commission Meeting. The City Council has scheduled a public hearing to consider the requested zoning change on September 12th.

## **Future Land Use, Zoning, and Existing Land Uses:**

TABLE 1 LAND USE AND ZONING INFORMATION			
Location	Future Land Use Map	Zoning	<b>Existing Land Use</b>
Subject Site	RL (Residential Low	R1B (Low Density	Undeveloped
	Density) & CN	Residential District)	
	(Commercial	& B2 (Community	
	Neighborhood)	Business)	
		Pending rezoning	
		request of 4.68	
		acres to R2	
		(Medium Density	
		Residential )	
North of Subject Property	RL	R1B	Single-Family
			Subdivision
East of Subject Property	RHM (Residential High	R4 (Multi-Family	Apartments
	Density Multi-Family)	Residential)	
South and West of Subject	С	B2	Undeveloped
Property			
West of Subject Property	RL	R1B	Single-Family
(across Shelton)			Subdivision



## **Conformance with Long Range Plans:**

## 1. Land Use

The Future Land Use Map shows the subject property and the adjoining properties to the north and west having the land use designation of RL (Residential Low Density), which according to the 1995 Comprehensive Plan, 2001 Executive Summary is compatible with the R1A and R1B (Low Density Residential Districts) and RC-1 (Residential Cluster Zone District 1). The requested R2 District is compatible with RM (Medium Density Residential). The adjoining land to the east and south, which is currently part of the subject property has two different land use designations: RL and CN. The CN designation is compatible with B1 (Neighborhood Business District) and B2/S1 (Community Business District/Special District 1) but not the current zoning of B2.

#### 2. Growth Plan

The subject property is part of the Old Madison Pike Key Development Area KDA. The Growth Plan recommends the subject property, Miller Plaza to the east and the Waverly Apartments east of Miller Boulevard be redeveloped as mixed use retail with or without residential. The KDA recommends a small scale commercial node on the south side of Old Madison Pike to take advantage of the morning commute. The Plan recommends medium density residential south of the commercial node with Miller Boulevard being extended south to Portal Lane. The Old Madison Pike KDA also emphasizes an upgrade to the Old Madison Pike/Slaughter Road intersection to create a City gateway. The Plan recommends greenways extending from Portal Lane to Old Madison. Old Madison Pike currently has sidewalks on both sides of the street and with greenways tying to the sidewalk creates a pedestrian network from the subject area to schools and recreational areas.

#### 3. Parks & Recreation Master Plan

The Parks & Recreation Master Plan did not identify any new parks or improvements to existing parks in the area. The closest existing city park is located at the northern termination point of Shelton Road approximately ¼ mile to the east of the Old Madison Pike/Shelton Road intersection. The Parks Plan does echo the recommendation of the Growth Plan for a City gateway at the intersection of Old Madison Pike/Slaughter Road.

## **Zoning & Subdivision Compliance:**

The proposed preliminary plat complies with Section 4-3 of the Zoning Ordinance, which regulates the dimensional requirements for the pending R2 District. The eight residential lots do not meet the required lot width requirement of the existing zoning of R1B.

The preliminary plat complies with the requirements of Section 4-5 of the Subdivision Regulations regulating the preparation of the preliminary plat. The construction plans are compliant with all provisions of the Subdivision Regulations, except for the possibility of unconsolidated fill on the lots, discussed below.

#### **Technical Review Committee:**

The Committee recommends approval of the application as requested with the contingencies.

The property was used as a landfill for several years, and staff is requiring a geotechnical report on whether the soils have consolidated enough to allow for the placement of buildings and whether the sanitary sewer can be installed at the proposed location. If unconsolidated fill is found where sanitary sewer is to be installed, the applicant most likely will install the sanitary sewer along Shelton Road. The other option would be to remove the bad soil and replace it with suitable fill material. Concerning the building pads, the method of making the soil suitable for a building will be determined by the Building Department.

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## **Analysis**

The preliminary plat and construction plans meet all technical standards provided in the Zoning Ordinance and Subdivision Regulations, except for the possibility of unsuitable fill material caused from the property being used as a landfill. The reason staff still recommends approval of the preliminary plat and construction plans is because the geotechnical report is forthcoming, and if unconsolidated fill is found there are engineering solutions to stabilize the soil conditions.

## **Attachments**

- 1. Recommended Technical Review Committee Contingencies Shelton Hill Subdivision
- 2. Preliminary Plat received on August 10, 2016

#### Attachment No. 1

## Recommended Technical Review Committee Contingencies Shelton Hill Subdivision

## **Planning Department Comments**

- 1. Provide a geotechnical report that verifies if there is any unconsolidated fill in the proposed location of building pads. If unconsolidated fill is discovered, the Building Department will determine the method of solution.
- 2. Note 4: A 15 ft. PUDE is required along the front of each lot
- 3. A pedestrian access easement will be required where required sidewalk leaves the right-ofway and comes onto the adjacent lots.
- 4. The proposed 5 ft. concrete sidewalk along Shelton Road

#### **Engineering Department**

- 1. (PENDING) Provide the following note: Minimum Finished Floor Elevations (MFFE) shall be established for all lots. The MFFE shall meet current Building Code and Engineering Department requirements for storm water drainage. Any lot located within a Special Flood Hazard Area shall meet the City of Madison Flood Ordinance requirements for structures.
- 2. (PENDING) Provide the following note: All driveway locations shall be approved by the City of Madison Engineering Department. All corner lots shall have the driveway placed along the lot line opposite the intersection.
- 3. Provide Stormwater report that meets the City's MS4 requirements for 1.14" rainfall event, detention, etc.

#### **Madison Utilities (for information only)**

1. Provide a geotechnical report that verifies if there is any unconsolidated fill in the proposed location of the sanitary sewer.

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# Attachment No. 2

Shelton Hill Subdivision **Preliminary Plat** Received August 10, 2016

(If viewed electronically from a link on the published agenda, this attachment can be found by clicking on the title of the project name listed on the agenda)